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Remarks From "Imprison."

It is reported from Washington that when the Hon. PAUL MORTON announced at a Cabinet meeting his intention to retire from that body at an early date his decision was greeted with a chorus of Noes, that of the President being the loudest."

Everybody recognizes the loyalty of President ROOSEVELT to his friends and official assistants. It is therefore possible that Mr. ROOSEVELT'S loud "No!" of protest, if that "No!" was really uttered as the reports say, was meant to signify that Secretary Monton need apprehend neither pressure nor desire on the part of the President for his withdrawal from the Cabinet while he is yet under fire; that is to say, until the charges of complicity in illegal transactions concerning rebates, prior to his appointment as Secretary of the Navy, have been determined one way or the other by

indicial inquiry. This view is confirmed by the circumstance that on the very day of the first Cabinet meeting since the President's return from the West we received from the Interstate Commerce Commission the officially promulgated text of its report and opinion in Case No. 789, "in the matter of alleged unlawful rates and practises in the transportation of coal and mine supplies by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé Railway Company." The report and opinion are rendered by the Hon. CHARLES A. PROUTY, the same Commissioner PROUTY who in the secret cipher used by the Beef Trust in its esoteric communications to agents engaged in procuring rebates from the Atchison was curiously designated by the code word "Imprison."

The official summary of Commissioner PROUTY'S, or "Imprison's," findings in Case 789 will be read with more general interest than is excited by most of the publications of the Interstate Commerce Commission:

" 1. The act to regulate commerce, which requires common carriers to publish and adhere to their tariffs, has been grossly and continuously violated by the Atchison. Topeka and Santa F6 Pallway Company during the last five years, in the following respects: It published rates on interstate shipments of coal from mines in Colorado and New Mexico which, under the tariffs, applied only to the transportation thereof, but which for the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company were made by the railway company to include the price of the coal, and such prices were paid to the fuel and iron company by the rallway company. While giving rebates to the fuel and tron company from such tariff rates, it charged the full tariff rates on interstate shipments of coal by other shippers in not only the general coal region involved, but in the same coal field. This practise of the reliway company desuited in closing markets for coal to shippers com-

peting with the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company. = 2. The act of Feb. 19. 1903, (the so-called Elkins law), which prohibits its carriers from transrequires observance of the tariff, provides a penalty for each violation of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$20,000, and applies both to the carrier and the party receiving the concession, has respecting the transportation involved in this proceeding, been systematically and continuously violated by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé Rafiway Company and the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company from the day of its passage down to Nov. 27, 1904. when the tariffs upon which this coal moved were reduced in all cases \$1.15; and this notwithstanding the Atchison, Topcka and Santa Fé Railway Company has, in a suit begun in the United States Circuit Court at the instance and request of this commission, been under injunction since March 25, 1902, to observe in all respects its published schedules of rates."

Commissioner PROUTY remarks further, concerning the obvious community of interest between the two partners in the criminal practises described above:

" The Santa Fé and the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company were virtually partners in this coal business. As partners they probably obtained the best price possible for coal at the various points of delivery, and apparently the division of the price obtained was not unduly in favor of the fuel com-

There is an additional reason, not stated by Mr. PROUTY, for believing that the spoils of crime were equitably diunlawful transaction. At the period of by the Interstate Commerce Commission, the second vice-president of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé Railway Company, the grantor of the rebate, and the vice-president of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, the beneficiary of the rebate, were one and the same person, the Hon. PAUL MORTON.

It is only ten days since the former second vice-president of the Atchison and the former vice-president of the Colorado Fuel and Iron, in the person of the present Secretary of the Navy, delivered at Washington an after dinner speech in which he remarked with subtle humor:

" Rebates or preferential rates in any form ought to be entirely discontinued."

In the recent cipher wherein Commis sioner PROUTY figures as "Imprison." and his associate, the Hon, JOSEPH W. FIFER, as "Improbitas," the division of rates is signified by "jocularis," while the code word for rebate itself is "laughsome." It is a mirthful little lexicon.

Faith and Doubt.

Mr. Goldwin Smith's discussions of the subject of religion in THE SUN bring to us letters expressive of both agreeout overloading THE SUN with the discordingly we to-day make selections enforce obedience upon ROJESTVENSEY. Frenchmen from other parts of France

from two of them, one on each side of the whole.

It is pertinent to remark, in calling at tention to these letters, that at the Epis-The Bible as a History" was the theme for discussion, only one of the four clerical speakers, Bishop RAN-DOLPH of conservative Virginia, came to the defense of the old position as to the infallibility of the Scriptures.

"We have given up the old infallibility," said the Rev. Mr. Nash, a professor in the Episcopal theological school at Cambridge; "we have frankly washed our hands of it." The Rev. Dr. PETERS, not define how long a belligerent vessel who has been prominently before the public recently because of his archeological and moral criticisms of Dr. HIL-PRECHT of Philadelphia, expressed the not make use of France's ports for pursame view, even more decidedly; for example: "When the explorations of Babylon began, search was made for proof of the truth of the Book of Daniel, but the stories did not correspond to the discoveries." He spoke of the Old Testament as "full of myths and tra- French Government, but he maintains JACOB as "not real people." The Rev. to discharge those obligations. It could S. H. BISHOP described as "courageous" the criticism which has declared "in of the extent of the coast line and the what respect and to what extent the absence of telegraphic stations. The historical narratives of the Old and the New Testaments seem to be incorrect to comply with her own conception of a and contrary to the normal laws of historical development"; though on those narratives rests the whole structure of

dogmatic Christianity. Of course, all this is now an old story It has been accepted by the great body of contemporary scholarship and is taught directly or inferentially in practically all the theological schools, unless the Roman Catholic. We have merely quoted the expressions of opinion of those clergymen as further evidence of letter as defined by herself. the unquestionable truth of Mr. Gold-WIN SMITH'S remark or suggestion that criticism of the very fundamentals of the old religious belief is now in the minds of the Christian clergy them-

selves It is true that in spite of the critical attitude of these clerical speakers at the Brooklyn Church Congress, they argued for the necessity of preserving the idea: ism of the Christian religion; but therein Mr. Goldwin Smith has expressed agreement with them. As he said last Sunday, "Christianity, ceasing to be a revelation, does not cease to be moral light; it has produced Christendom, and Christendom, despite the unspeakable crimes of kings and priests, has been nearly identical with moral civilization."

The French Reply to Japan's Com-

plaint. On May 10 the Paris Temps, which is regarded as the organ of the Foreign Office, published the text of the document in which the Japanese Minister complained of an alleged violation of French neutrality by Russia. On May 11 the same newspaper printed an abstract of the reply made by M. DELCASSE. The two papers, taken together, raise several interesting questions, among which the most urgent is whether the French interpretation of a neutral's duty is not equivalent to the assertion of a right to become an unavowed, but a practical, coadjutor of a belligerent, and materially to further the latter's warlike operations.

Admitting that the French Governits subordinates in Indo-China after the need of them was brought to its attention porting traffic until a tariff has been published. by him, the Japanese Minister submits that it would have been more consonant with a neutral's obligations if the instructions had been sent spontaneously and in advance, so as to avert the situation of which Japan complains. This seems to be a reasonable contention. Undoubtedly a government is responsible for any breaches of neutrality on the part of its official representatives in transmarine dependencies. Those representatives should have received timely explicit and peremptory orders, and they should have been notified that their official existence depended on their compliance therewith.

The French Foreign Office cannot presince ROJESTVENSKY left the North Sea. many months ago, he has used French naval stations for purposes of repair, of revictualing and of recoaling with as much freedom as if they had been Russian harbors. We presume that no serious objection would be made by Japan to the short visits of the Russian fleet at Cherbourg, Dakar, Algiers, Jibutil and Majunga, for even the strict rule upheld by Great Britain and some other maritime Powers does not prohibit a belligvided between the two partners in the erent vessel from staying twenty-four nacular of the most successful plays by hours in a neutral port, and doubtless a the illegal rebates, denounced as above | slight prolongation of that period would | next dramatic season, and the success of not be caviled at, provided the port in question were at a great distance from of Nossi Bé in Madagascar waters, though it was prolonged for very many formal protest on Japan's part, because

> Ocean was not credited. It is now apparent, however, that Ro-JESTVENSKY'S protracted stay at Nossi his fleet's efficiency by gun practise and | tions would be found wanting. in other ways, but also to render it easier for the supplemental squadron under NIEBOGATOFF to reenforce him. When he ultimately crossed the Indian Ocean and entered the South China Sea he must have known that, if the French local authorities should prove as indulgent in Indo-China as they had proved | looking over to such ultimate event as its in Madagascar, he could rely on effecting a junction with that squadron.

miral's intention of crossing the Indian

All this should have been as clearly by the St. Petersburg Admiralty; and if the French Government had been determined not to allow its ports to be used to further the accomplishment of the ment and radical and sometimes bitter Russian naval program, it would have selves only with the problems of their disagreement with his views. They are sent peremptory orders months ago to own civilization during recent years. so many that we cannot print them with- its agents in Madagascar and Indo- It might almost be said that they have China, and would have despatched to the | become only Parisian, so subtle and excussion into which they enter, and ac- South China Sea a fleet strong enough to clusive are their studies of life. Even

As a matter of fact, Rojestvensky has are said to find these intimate studies of the case, as generally representative of | done precisely as he chose. Without regard to the expression of wishes, the sincerity of which he may have doubted, he has remained in what, for all practical copal Church Congress in Brooklyn, when | purposes, must be deemed French waters until the desired junction with NIEBO-GATOFF was brought about.

In his reply to the Japanese complaint, M. DELCASSÉ says that France has never accepted the British definition of a neutral's duty. That is true enough, but he goes on to say that the French code of international law was formulated at the beginning of the war between Spain and the United States. Now, this code does may stay in a neutral port, nor how much coal it may procure therefrom, but it expressly declares that "belligerents canposes of war." Unquestionably French ports have been used by ROJESTVENSKY for those purposes. M. DELCASSÉ himself admits that the stay of the Russian fleet for several weeks in French waters has imposed special obligations upon the ditions"-and ABRAHAM. ISAAC and that the Government has done all it could not have done more, he says, on account obvious answer is that if France meant neutral's duty she should have sent months ago to Indo-China a fleet able to patrol the coast effectually.

Our conclusion is that the facts do not justify the final assertion of the French Foreign Office that France has "fulfilled its duty as a neutral Power, so far as its means allowed, not only according to the letter, but according to the spirit of international law." She has complied neither with the spirit nor even with the

O. Sweet Sam Bowles!

High noon, Thursday. A gracious figure in a dark purple songcoat, a red Tam o' Shanter, and "sneakers" in whose polished surface the dandelions could see how bilious they looked. The apple blossoms shook themselves over it. The red cows lowed long and tenderly at it. Phalaris, Son GRIFFIN's black and tan bull, with the hav on his horn, charged at it playfully. Maybirds sang around it. The well known Boston terrier Bolo Bill capered and barked at it. The grass whispered to it. The cocks crowed at it. The remnants of every family washing still visible on the lines along the line of walk gave the Chautauqua salute. The poetry season in Agawam was opened. Sweet SAM BOWLES fills himself with the May wine of song:

" Now columbine in its gypsy beauty dances on the rocks; like as in the pantomime when harlequin waves his wand. The harjequin is none other than the vivacious spring, and his magic is responded to by the violets and anemones in myriads while trilliums and the showy orchis answer; and in the swamps the goldthread sends its starry greeting to the stars which shine upon it down through the light leaved trees and the budding hackmatacks, and around the swamp in the green ing sphagnum the cassandra and andromeda are swaying their graceful belis-"

In the beautiful words of ZENAS MILO TIDD, the BOWLES of Toad Hill:

I heard the trilliums trilliuming, the trills and the thrills that shock:

saw in the ma'sh where the bullfrogs pash the gleam of the goldthread's sock; In the greening sphagnum

I opened a magnum. O. trills. O. trilliums. O. Bock!" But back to the melody of those bells, the graceful bells, the bells of the old brown mare in the hulled corn cart. A moody and solitary race, the drivers of hulled corn carts; but this one weeps happy tears as the heavenly music is

pumped out: " The robins are calling, and the oriole dashes tra splendid color beneath the apple boughs, humming with bees; and songsparrow sings from the fence post and the swaying poplar, and the warblers flit from tree to tree and bush to bush, in lively delight in song."

Robin and oriole, songsparrow and songbowles, warblers all. Bolo Bill dashes his splendid color at Phalaris The brook gurgles. So does a flat squat black object, apparently of glass, in the hands of the hulled corn cart man. He tend that it was taken by surprise; for hums, warbles, sways. The old black mare, having had her fill of roadside grass, jogs on. From the meads of Agawam comes the mystic warning:

" As to the cusp of the moon." We leave the poet just as he is hanging his "sneakers" on the cusped moon. O, Sweet SAM BOWLES!

The Theater for French Plays.

The plan to open in New York a theater devoted to the performance in the ver-French authors will add interest to the the scheme will be gratifying to all those who find that New York's dramatic prothe expected scene of hostilities. Even grams might be more interesting than ROJESTVENSKY'S sojourn at the Island they have been during recent years. The French dramatic authors are more active than their colleagues in any other weeks, is not known to have excited any country but Germany. Their plays are literary to a degree approached in the at Tokio and elsewhere the Russian Ad- work of English speaking dramatists only by PINERO. Unlike the plays of American dramatists, these works are submitted to the ordeal of publication when they are acted; and that is a test Bé was intended not only to increase by which most of our American composi-

The men who supply the theater with its literature are in France literary in their methods to an extent unknown here. To write effective stage plays is the height of the average American dramatist's ambition. He thinks of the "run" that his work may have, without place in the letters of its time. Some of the most successful of the French dramatic writers are known in other branches foreseen by the Paris Foreign Office as | of writing. Several are successful novelists and critics. All show in their plays a standard which makes them a part of

the literature of the day. The Frenchmen have concerned them

social life nearly as remote to them as they seem to foreigners. For what was dramatic in the older sense of the word they have slight patience. They are interested only in the subtle analysis of the relations between the sexes, usually complicated by the curlous social conditions that are most common in Parisian plays and novels. The trinity with two of its members in wedlock and one of them outside is the combination that still appeals most to the French playwright and the Paris public. Occasionally a figure like ROSTAND rises so far above his compatriots that he can even ignore the material they use. Then the French theater acquires a general interest which it does not possess when its

ordinary subjects are handled. The general appeal of Rostand's plays has carried them through the civilized world, while the productions of his contemporaries rarely cross the borders of France. It is unfortunate that their dramas are not more frequently acted in this country. Their literary style and the finish of their technique would make them interesting in spite of our lack of sympathy with their subjects. The commercial managers, anxious as they are for new material, have not produced in recent years many of the French dramas.

Those plays that have been acted here have not done much toward acquainting the American public with the French stage. They have been indifferently and hurriedly translated and carelessly performed in many cases. It was not possible from the plays seen here to form an estimate of the character of the originals. If these works are worth bringing here at all they should be seen in a form that shows their greatest merits. They should be translated or adapted in a way that reproduces the spirit when not the letter of the original. They should be carefully prepared for performance by persons capable of understanding them and the meaning of their authors. Then the actors must be more suited to their work than some of those seen recently

in French plays in New York. All these desirable elements will be present in the plays the new association presents. They will have every favorable circumstance to success. Produced as the new association promises to produce them, the French drama will be an interesting contribution to next year's amusements in this city. And there is no better stimulus for the native drama than new plays by men of talent, from whatever country they may come.

Queerness of Indians.

Peeking stonily and superiorly over the Boston Pale at a barbarian world, the Boston Herald stares and wonders at those happy Hoosiers and remarks;

" Indiana in a queer State." We have forgotten whether Boston is crazier than Springfield or Springfield crazier than Boston. Indeed, statistics show that each is crazier than the other and both are crazier than all others. Massachusetts is the only State, but Kansas, where they have sane asylums. Yet Indiana looks "queer" to those Boston eyes in a fine frenzy rolling. "Don't mind him; he's crazy as a bedbug," says the gentleman who believes himself to be NEBUCHADNEZZAR, as he glares at

his keeper. By "crazy" we mean, of course, "stung by the gadfly," "full of sacred madness," "divinely dippy."

Boston contemplating pragmatically the rest of the universe and finding it bad is a familiar but joyous sight to most of us. Bitten by patriotism, however, the Indianapolis News cries that "it would be interesting to know in what ways Indiana is a queer State."

Peace, perturbed spirit! To be distinguished, to be different from the rest, is to be labeled "queer" or "crank. Indiana is "queer" in more ways than we have time and ink to write them down. For example, she has:

1. More and sweeter poets to the square inch than any other State and all other States.

2. More novelists to the square inch. 8. More politicians to the square inch. 4. More woman's clubs to the square inch.

5. More dramatists and humorists to the square inch. 6. More "temperament," delight in

literary and other glory, and as much or more State pride.

7. A Hoosier can pick out another Hoosier among ten thousand or a million men. Why?

A mystery. Indiana is "queer." So was Athens, in its most high and palmy days. It is the privilege of genius to do as it darn pleases

As the twig is bent. It should be gratifying to every friend of humanity to know that ingenuous youth clings to those great principles of government that govern so often and so hard. Coal was delivered by non-union teamsters at a Chicago school building. Seven hundred pupils resented this outrage by striking at once. The manlier spirits among the boys threw stones at the "scab" drivers. Truant officers and special policemen have gone to the protection of capital and the school building. The young strikers will be intimidated, spanked, perhaps; scourged to their desks, but they have shown their sympathies. Indeed, most schoolboys would be glad to be on strike all the school year.

The amicable adjustment of the difficulties between the French Government and the Carthusian monks, makers of chartreuse cordials, restores the manufacture again to France. This restoration and the reasons for it corroborate the views of those who maintain that genuine cordials, like certain vintages of wine and some varieties of cheese, can be made only in a particular

place and cannot be duplicated elsewhere. For several centuries the chartreuse cordials have been compounded and distilled in that district of southern France near Grenoble, which produces herbs and spices of the varieties required. These, when mixed with brandy of a kind to be found only in France, constitute the elements of the cordial, the "secret" of which

the monks have always refused to divulge. When, under the operation of the Associations law, the monks were obliged to leave France and take up their residence in Spain, in the neighborhood of Tarragons, it was found that their chartreuse could not be manufactured there. The soil, the climate the methods of agriculture and the tempera-

ture of the Tarragona region did not permit The new chartreuse made in Spain proved to be only an imitation of the genuine, and the return of the monks to their old district has restored to the cordial its former quali-

ties and excellence. For the same reason that smoky Scotch whisky cannot be made in America, Dutch schnapps in England or Geneva gin in Germany, real French chartreuse could not be made in Spain.

A RADIOLOGY CONGRESS. International Meeting Arranged by Beigian Government-Americans to Attend.

A letter has just been received by Mr. comis, the Acting Secretary of State, from the Belgian Minister, with the information that the first international congress for the study of radiology and ionization will be held at Liege, from Sept. 12 to 14 of this year, under the patronage of the Belgian Government. The State Department is authorized to issue certificates of appointment to any persons nominated by the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor as delegates from the United States. Such persons, however, must attend at their own expense and without compensation from this Govrnment.

committee in charge, which is recruited from the faculties of the four universities of Belgium and the Military Academy, has framed the following program:

1. Physico-chemical section: (a) properties of the electrons and accompanying radiations, X-rays, cathodic rays, ionization; (b) radio-activity and corresponding transformations; (c) meteorological and terrestrial phenomena connected with ionisation and radio-activity; (d) N-rays. Biological section: physiological properties and medical applications of the various radiations

and of radio-activity. Among the subjects which will receive prominent attention will be the recent experimentation with radium as a cure for

FAITH AND DOUBT.

Conflicting Opinions as to Mr. Goldwin Smith's Recent Letters to "The Sun."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: For wo years past I have been reading letters on he religious situation by Mr. Goldwin Smith THE SUN, and write to express my appreciation of them. I find them most helpful. The discoveries by Delitsch and others in Babylonia, Egypt and other parts of the world of human records relating to eras that formerly were hardly realized by historians all tend to reduce or destroy the credibility of much of our Biblical writings.

But if we must regard the record of our religious forefathers as inclusive of things legendary, allegorical, mythical, ecstatio, unscientific and finally unworthy of our same belief, then I feel that we are greatly indebted to Mr. Goldwin Smith for his continued en-deavor to separate and retain that which is true and lasting from the labyrinth of all so-called religions of which we have any knowledge. We are indebted to him for ra-tional unbelief concerning things that never so-called religions of which we have any knowledge. We are indebted to him for rational unbelief concerning things that never should have been believed though long field to be sacred, for courage to declare preference for scientific truth rather than stultifying dogma, and for the great service he is rendering to all mankind in the quest for a rule of life, or a religion—if you please—which will evoke power like that of faith in God and humanity like that of Christ; something that is believable by all men everywhere, in all time.

BOSTON, MAY 9.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. old win Smith acknowledges that the moral a hidden corner of the Roman world proced Christendom and moral civilization. Even amid his doubts he must confess that this was a pretty large and remarkably successful job for a Jewish mechanic of a very miserable little village to accomplish, "despite the unspeakable crimes of kings and priests" and against practically infinite odds.

The historical fact of this stupendous accomplishment in the face not only of apparently insurmountable obstacles, but of all the doubters from the cloud of first century Greek hairsplitters down to Mr. Goldwin Smith himself, is considered by the vast majority of Christendom as one of the most compelling reasons for believing that there is a spiritual force in the world higher and mighter than matter and that Christianity was and is a Divine revealation.

Mr. Goldwin Smith is profoundly moved by the spectacle of 9,000 letters in three months sent to a London newspaper in answer to the cessful job for a Jewish mechanic of a very

ent to a London newspaper in answer to the juestion: "Do we believe?" What are 9,000 sent to a linear section of the control of the cont BOSTON, May 9.

Catholic Singers in Protestant Churches, From the Guidon, Roman Catholic Macasine Many of the newspapers of late have been hinting at an exodus of Catholic singers to Protestant

The law prohibiting a Catholic from singing in Protestant church is not a law established by the Church, but a law of God contained in the first Commandment: "I am the Lord thy God, thou shalt not have strange Gods before Me." The Catholic child is taught that Christ established but one Church, to which all must conform in order to be saved, and consequently the child is taught and believes that all other forms of worship established by man are false and erroneous, and that no Catholic can be present or take part in any of these religious exercises. The mere presence of the singer at such a service is a violation of the first Commandment. She deliberately attends a worship which her conscience tells her is false. The non-Catholic, while he is bound by the Commandments of God just as much as the Catholic, does not act against his conscience, for in the majority of cases he honestly believes one religion is as good an another, and that Christ left to man the selection of the method and manner of worshiping Him. In attending the different churches he acts according to his conscience. The Catholic acts against his conscience in attending another form of religion, and sins by so doing, even if it were not a question. as it is, of violation of the first Commandment of God. Moreover, all Catholies know that such per-sons cannot receive absolution while engaged in this practice any more than they could while habitually violating any of the other Commandments.

Our Lady of the Snows and the Rum Keg. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I wish to help ne Canada barrel cooper understand a keg. a two

gallon keg of rum. The keg is any size to fit the rum. I can make them smallest at the bung, to fit the back of a ragor back horse. We make applefack of the moonshine variety, strong and wicked enough to carry an election with a one gallon keg. It is sure to fit the backbone of the rider. He doesn't carry it on the outside of his backbone,

We don't take any chances with a jug. It would break, or the handle get pulled off "carrying the

If the Canada cooper will 'cross over anywhere east of Duluth and visit us, we will show him many things to take the wool out of his eyes and the kinks out of his hair. The people up in the Lake Su-perior copper region would be pleased to annex him at once. They would give him the glad hand. show him kegs of all sizes, and teach him to drink Loom the bung. OI MORRIS COUNTY, May 9.

A Wretched Walk.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I invite your attention (and that of any who may be interested, officially or otherwise) to the deplorable condition of one of our principal thoroughfares, used per haps as extensively and traversed by as many people as any in the city, and its condition would disgrace a country village.

I refer to the walk connecting Broadway with the Park row station, via the City Hall Park, on a line formed by a continue ace of Warren street. Every time it rains this piece of walk abounds in pools of water, anywhere from one to three or four inches deep, through which thousands of pedcatrians must spinsh and wade, to get to and from the Park row station and the subway terminals. It is Fretched shape, dry or wet, but particularly wet.

It would be a matter of no very great expense to lay a good walk graded so that the water would run of at either side, and the walk be comparatively dry and smooth at all times. Will not somebody to something about it?

NEW YORK, May 13. His Conclusion.

Kutcker-So your wife went to the country to Bocker-Yes, and from the size of her hotel bill it must be among the six best sellers

Every Day. Stella-Her face is her fortune. FARMHANDS NEEDED.

With immigration larger than ever before, the great need of our Eastern farms is still unsupplied. The cry from rural New York is that farm labor is scarce and dear; deficient in both quantity and quality, for much of it is ill-trained and unreliable. Many foreign farmhands and small farmers are still coming here, but as for many years past they remain in the cities or pass through the East to the West, and our farmers benefit little by their advent.

The New York State Department of Agriculture is now planning to attract desirable immigrants to our farming distriots. Commissioner Wieting, empowered by recent legislation, is preparing lists of questions concerning the dairying, fruit, pasture, hay and other agricultural interests of every part of the State. These questions will be sent to the town Supervisors, and under the law it is their duty to fill the blanks and return them to Albany within thirty days. This information, showing the advantages of the State for the small farmer and the agricultural laborer, is to be widely distributed where it is likely to do the most good.

A turning point has been reached, and Eastern farmers have every reason to expect that the rewards of their occupation will again be more commensurate with their natural advantages. The supply of Uncle Sam's free homesteads in the West is practically exhausted. Free pasturage in the West is also greatly declining. The time is approaching when the farmers of the North Atlantic States will reclaim their

They lost the primacy in stock raising, not because the West can make as good hay or produce as good grass as the North Atlantic States, for it cannot do so; but because grass could be had in the West of for next to nothing. That day has now

gone by. The Mississippi Valley will retain its primacy in the production of cereals, but practically all our agricultural leaders, like from Prof. Bailey of Cornell, are predicting that the East is to become far more important in the production of live stock, dairy stuffs and fruit. With the greatest markets near at hand and the present tendency to adapt more perfectly the kind of farm products to the soil and climate, the Eastern farmers have their decided and peculiar advantages, and they will be fully utilized.

These conditions have to do with the fact that our New York farmers are making more money to-day than was possible a few years ago. What is needed now is to attract plenty of good labor to the farms as long as the supply is not equal to the growing demand; and the least that can be done in this direction is to enlighten the world as to the greatness of the agricultural resources and opportunities of the Empire State.

THE NAVY'S FATHER. Jack Barry's Early Distinction and Honors | Col. Posey S. Wilson Saturates Himself

Set Forth.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The records tell us that Jack Barry received his commission as Captain of the Lexington named after the first battlefield of the Revoution) Dec. 7, 1775, and Capt. Wilkes was appointed to the command of the Reprisal. while Paul Jones, according to his own diary, received the rank of Lieutenant. have Barry the first and highest officer of

the Continental Navy. At the end of the Revolution there remained but two shios, which were in such a wretched but two shios, which were in such a wretched condition that the Government condemned them, and thus the Continental Navy was abolished. Jones sought his fortune in a foreign land. July 18, 1792, he died in Paris.
July 1, 1794, or nearly two years after the death of Jones, Jack Barry was sworn in as senior Captain of the new United States Navy, which still continues to grow. His commission was the first signed by Washington as President of the United States.

Barry received an order from the Secretary of War, authorizing him to superintend the building of the first ship of the new navy. He proceeded to Georgia, where he selected the oak of which the ship was built under his

careful supervision. When she was built under his careful supervision. When she was launched he was assigned to command this memorable vessel, first of our present pavy, which was in the face of these feet.

christened "United States."
In the face of these facts can there be any doubt that Jack Barry is truly the "Father of the American Navy?" Was not Barry the trusted man of the sea on every important occasion? He took Lafayette to France, seeking the aid of the King, in 1779. He took Col. Jaurens, Snecial Commissioner of the United States, to France in 1781, and on his return into Boston harbor his prizes of war amounted to nearly \$2,000,000.
In 1783, while carrying a large amount of specie for Congress, he fought the last battle of the most glerious of all revolutions, and

BROOKLYN, May 13.

A Forthcoming Epic Announced. From the York Gazette.

One thing may come out of the Russo-Japanese war: an epic poem such as has not appeared for centuries. Conditions are right in either of the warring nations to produce a masterpiece that will compare favorably with the Iliad, the Jerusalem or the Eneid. But Japan will furnish forth the poet. The Japanese imagination is said to be a thing that knows no bounds—as free as nature herself Japan will not have to horrow from the mythology of antiquity-classical antiquity-her models gods and heroes. She is well supplied with both. Her religion is an exhaustless storehouse from which the poet can draw all the fanciful material. This war will furnish the scene and the few neces. sary facts. The Japanese language is an ample vehicle to carry an immortal song. The poet will come from the lower classes. His

ne will be far from those Japanese cities wherein enlightenment has apread. He will be a very or dinary individual in the estimation of his country nen, locally recognized as a minstrel of some merit All the poets of civilized nations, we are told, are old and heartless rimesters. Imagination is in its zenith in half civilized lands. Civilization pro duces critics. Homers and Tassos grow out of the wilds. Alfred Austin is refined to a finish, the product of the highest civilization ever known. Homer was a blind child of the wilderness, a poor, homeless vagabond, occupying a smaller station in the world of his time than is held by an Italian organ grinder of to-day. But he left us a treasure which man will worship forever. Alfred will leave us some sheets of paper with which we may make kites or wad a shotgun.

Macaulay predicted that in the year twenty-eight hundred and something a Japanese would produce an epic on the battle of Waterloo. But the Japanese now has battles of his own. He will attend to his home markets first.

The High Check Rein. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Cannot something be done to stop the brutally high checking

f horses, now so prevalent in our city?
It is simply the reanement of cruelty to confine any given set of muscles to an unnatural position and the sight of peryous, sweating horses, shaking and twisting their heads in an effort to get away from the agony of the check rein, is maddening. If they were compelled to wear a check in and out of the stall, it would not be so bad; for after prolonged period of suffering they would become sed to it; but as it is now, they are doomed to the orture for one half their time.

S. T. VILLIAMS.

Mistress-What can you do? New Giri-Ci'm willing to be nursemald in a family widout no children.

Her Specialty.

NEW YORK, May 12.

Henry James's Recent Visitation on New England. He wrapped each flower in The meshes of his style. With long and complicated rant He pummeled each unlucky plant

A while. Beside a flowing stream He, meditating, sat And analyzed that river's past

Until the river stood aghast Thereat. And when toward Britain's isle At last he turned his head.

Dried up was every stream he saw And every flower, crushed with awe BASEBALL'S ORIGIN

How Mr. Peck Sustained Mr. Chidwick

Against Mr. Spald nr. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I WAS highly amused on reading in THE SER the very interesting article headed "Archeology of Baseball," in which my old friend the worthy president of the Metropolitan Athletic Association endeavors to bring into public notice through the columns of the paper which "shines for all" the controversy which I am now engaged with my youth ful friend Albert G. Spalding, now of Call-fornia, relative to the origin of our fully established national game of baseball. My His bernian friend, I notice, very shrewdly selects THE SUN as the vehicle of his communication, order to obtain an indorsement of his story from that paper. With characteristic wit and humor, and with the telling sarcasm of a Dean Swift, he tells a story full of interest

o every veteran ball player in the land. His quotations from the six page article Spalding's Baseball Guide for 1905 - a book have edited for the last twenty-four years on "What Is the Original of Baseball," written y Mr. Spalding, are however, somewhat unlucky for his side of the story. For instance, he says: "Even now they are hunting for one Dickie Pearce" of the old Atlantics their behalf. I can inform t guished "commission" right now that the once renowned short ell them, and in a short para ears ago I asked Dick Pearce

ganse as played at Hoboken from 1845 to 1857.

Here is an interesting fact which I duote from the Guide on the subject which is a pointer in the same direction. The inclean in question happened last fall in Mr. Spalding's New York office, where I had a chat with my young friend Albert on the origin of our American game. While we were srguing the veteran sport, Mr. Andrew Peck-now a wealthy real estate owner in Brooklyndropned in, and Mr. Spalding asked, "When did you first play ball?"

The reply was, "In the latter part of the "40s, about 1847 or 1848." Then Mr. Spalding asked him, "What was the game called then?"

"Why, rounders," said Mr. Peck, We

'40s, about 1817 or 1848." Then Mr. Spalding asked him, "What was the game called then?" "Why, rounders," said Mr. Peck. Wa could not help laughing as Mr. Spalding said to Mr. Peck, "Why did you come in just now for? I was getting the best of the old man on his rounders theory."

But I will not longer occupy your valuable space with more of the troof I hold to sustain my argument as regards the origin of our grand game of ball, but will await the action of the distinguished members of Bucher

grand game of ball, but will await the action of the distinguished members of Brother Spalding's commission, when I hope to meet my old friends Senators Bulkeley and Gorman and point out to them the errors of M Spalding's views on the subject. HENRY CHADWICK.

BROOKLYN, May 12.

ATHENE CLUBWOMAN.

With the Bloomin' Lyre. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: How Cleveland attacked the whole army of club Quixote in attacking the whole flock of sheep.

Had the former sought out Pallas Athene, the exponent, pattern and paradigm club woman, and snatched her baldheaded, as it were, history would be more cheerful reading. Ere this, Mr. Cleveland has "heard voic the garden, "the rosebud garden of du omen, and "is afraid," or he would ha joined. Let him take down betimes i

mg what influence it was that

POSEY S. WILSON. General Officers Killed in Battle. From the Army and Navy Journal. From the archives of the Confederacy en deposit in the War Department the Military

Secretary, Major-Gen. Ainsworth, has brought to light some interesting data concerning the nanders of the Confederate forces in the field in the fateful days of 1861-65 Deducting eleven names of officers who did not qualify for one reason or another, we have in this list 415 Generals, and the records given show that of these 74 were killed or mor-

tally wounded in action, or is per cent This is a very striking showing when we seem and Japanese armies fighting in Manchuria from fatal casualties to general officers. We recall but one who has been reported killed in battle in the Far East, and if there are others they must be very few; whereas the percentage of casualties among the excess of the percentage of casualties among the rank and file of the Russian and Japanese armies as given by Gen. Bliss, who has the best of facilities for learning the facts. No less than 23 general officers of the Confederacy are were killed in battle during the eleven menths of campaigning and the eight months of campaigning and the eight months of fighting comisencing with Grant's Battle of the Wilderness and ending with Appomatos. Ten Brigadier-Generals of the Union Army were also killed during this campaign, besides 12 Colonels commanding brigades, 6 of them at Cold Harbor alone. At Franklin 7 Confederate Generals were killed, and during Sherman's campaign 5, the Union Army losing 3. At Clettysburg 5 Confederate and 5 Union Generals were killed, 10 in all, heades 8 Union Colonels commanding brigades. A Fredericksburg 2 Union and 2 Confederate Generals were killed, 10 in all, besides 3 Union Generals were killed. In all, the Union Army losin killed or mortally wounded 50 general officers, 23 brevet Brigadier-Generals and 5 Colonels commanding brigades.

Taking the proportion as one killed to 4.51 wounded, this would indicate that an onfederate Generals were killed or wounded out of total of 415. Probably, however, the general recall the almost entire immunity of the Rus

Taking the proportion as the wounded, this would indicate that 40 erate Generals were killed or wounded total of 415. Probably, however, the officers were the selected victims of the shooters, who shot to kill. In one of the civil war, subjected to the casualties of battle, the First Minnesot typhorg, 28 per cent, of those engal killed and 82 per cent, were killed and 81 in 42 other regiments the percentage in different battles was 18 or no ratio of killed to wounded in 56 battle vivil war was 1 to 4.8, varying 1 to 3 at Williamsburg and 1 to 6.7 at. Post. The average among the Regul was 1 to 4.52. The mortally wounded 64 per cent, of those killed outricht 64 per cent, of those killed outricht 65 cerman army during the war with 19

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir! If we wan theap gas the surest way of getting it is through inion of all local Democrats. erawe the rural Republican machine. into some degree of purification and bring r last to a tyrasnized metropolis. So long as ber of self-consecrated Democrats seek dist by acting as catspaws for a Republican boss, we are not likely to enjoy anything better than a partical gas commission, a morigage tax bill, transfer bill and other similar recasures benefit of inland Republicans New York's we political troubles are the direct result of the r or ruin policy of independent Democrats.

Where Gen. Butler Drew the Line. From the Boston Berald.

On one occasion when in Congress, Gen. Ben's-F. Butler rose in his place and initimate the member who occupted the floor was transercssing the limits of debate.
"Why, General," said the member, representably. "you divided your time with me."
"I know I did." rejoined Butler grimly, "but I

didn't divide eternity with you." Eansan's Anti-Octopus Necktie.

From the Kansas City Journal. brand of necktle has made its appearance in the oil belt and its popularity promises ! over the State. It is a four-in-hand tie will broldered cuds showing a Standard Oil barrel with